

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6035**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 6

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 19, 2012

**BILL AMENDED:** Jan 10, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Knives with Automatic Blades.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Tomes

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. Ubelhor

**BILL STATUS:** As Passed Senate

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
X DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) This bill removes a provision that makes it a Class B misdemeanor for a person to manufacture, possess, display, offer, sell, lend, give away, or purchase certain knives with blades that open automatically.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2012.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** If fewer court cases occur and fewer fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund and the state General Fund would decrease. The maximum fine for a Class B misdemeanor is \$1,000. Criminal fines are deposited in the Common School Fund.

**Background:** If a case is filed in a circuit, superior, or county court, 70% of the \$120 court fee that is assessed and collected when a guilty verdict is entered is deposited in the state General Fund. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 55% of the fee is deposited in the state General Fund. In addition, some or all of the document storage fee (\$2), automated record keeping fee (\$7), judicial salaries fee (\$18), public defense administration fee (\$3), court administration fee (\$5), judicial insurance adjustment fee (\$1), and the DNA sample processing fee (\$1) are deposited into the state General Fund.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** The bill could reduce local expenditures. A Class B misdemeanor is punishable by up to 180 days in jail. The average daily cost to incarcerate a prisoner in a county jail is approximately \$44.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** The bill could reduce local revenue if fewer court cases occur and fewer fines are collected.

**Background:** If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments receive revenue from the following sources: The county general fund receive 27% of the \$120 court fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive 3% of court fees. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee is deposited in the county general fund and 25% is deposited in the city or town general fund. In addition, several additional fees may be collected at the discretion of the judge and depending upon the particular type of criminal case.

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** Chuck Mayfield, 317-232-4825.